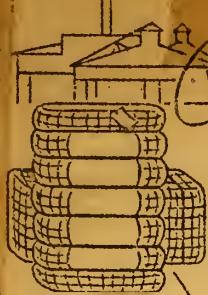


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# Cotton Production



CROP REPORTING BOARD

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

BAC

Release: August 8, 1949

11:00 A.M. (E.D.T.)

AUGUST 1949

A 14,805,000 bale cotton crop this year is forecast by the Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. The indicated 1949 crop, based on information as of August 1, is 63,000 bales, or 0.4 percent, less than last year's production despite an increase of 14 percent in acreage. Unfavorable weather and heavy boll weevil infestation in central and eastern States more than offset unusually favorable prospects in Texas and the three far-western States. Production in 1948 was 14,868,000 bales and the 1938-47 average is 11,306,000 bales.

Lint yield per acre for the United States, computed at 274.4 pounds, is 38.7 pounds below last year's record yield but 20.4 pounds above the 10-year average. The acreage for harvest this year, assuming average abandonment of the acreage in cultivation on July 1, is indicated at 25,897,000 acres—the largest since 1937.

Prospective production is smaller than last year in all Cotton Belt States except Texas, Oklahoma, Virginia and Florida. In Mississippi, where the crop is later than average and weevil infestation is the highest in 15 years, prospective production is 753,000 bales below last year's large crop. In Arkansas, as a result of frequent rains during the growing season and near record level of boll weevil infestation, the indicated crop is 332,000 bales less than produced last season. Showery weather prevailed in Louisiana, and the States east of the Mississippi River during June and July, and the weevil population on August 1 also was considerably higher than average. Decreases in the indicated crop, by States, compared with last year's production are as follows: Missouri, 31,000 bales; North Carolina, 108,000 bales; South Carolina, 146,000; Georgia, 175,000; Tennessee, 20,000; Alabama, 237,000; Louisiana 131,000 bales.

In Texas, weather has been generally favorable for cotton and plant growth and fruiting have made very good progress; production is forecast at 4,450,000 bales, which is up 1,300,000 bales from last season. The progress of the California crop has been excellent to date with production forecast at 1,300,000 bales. This is the first year in which production in this State has exceeded 1,000,000 bales, and also the first year the State's production has ranked fourth among all cotton producing States. Record cotton crops also are forecast for Arizona and New Mexico.

With an unusually large survival of boll weevils as a result of the mild winter and with showery weather prevailing during June and July, boll weevil infestation is above average except in Texas and Oklahoma. Plant growth in most areas is large or rank, providing more than usual weevil protection from high temperatures. Frequent rains have either prevented poisoning or made it ineffective over a large part of weevil territory; there is a shortage of poison in some localities.

No estimate of cottonseed production will be made until final ginnings for the season are released in May, 1950. However, if the ratio of lint to cottonseed is the same as the average for the past five years, production would be 5,962,000 tons, compared with 5,941,000 tons in 1948 and the 10-year average of 4,631,000 tons.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
 BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
 CROP REPORTING BOARD  
 WASHINGTON, D. C.

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COTTON REPORT AS OF AUGUST 1, 1949

The Crop Reporting Board of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics makes the following report from data furnished by crop correspondents, field statisticians, and cooperating State agencies. The final outturn of cotton compared with this forecast will depend upon whether the various influences affecting the crop during the remainder of the season are more or less favorable than usual.

State	AREA IN		AUGUST 1		LINT YIELD PER		PRODUCTION(GINNINGS) <sup>3</sup>		
	CULTIVATION		CONDITION		HARVESTED ACRE		500-lb. gross wt. bales		
	JULY 1, 1949: Aver-		Aver-		Aver-		1949 Crop		
	LESS 10-YEAR	age	age	age	cated	age	cated	1948	Indi-
	AVERAGE ABAN:	1938-	1948	1949	1938-	1948	1949	1938-	Crop: cated
	1/	1947	2/	1947	3/	2/	1947	4/	Aug. 1
	Thous.		Pct.	Pct.	Lb.	Lb.	Lb.	Thous.	Thous.
	acres							bales	bales
Missouri.....	542	80	92	84	451	460	421	356	506
Virginia.....	32	—	—	—	348	447	375	22	24
N. Carolina....	811	80	86	79	355	447	337	549	678
S. Carolina....	1,203	74	84	72	309	372	289	716	871
Georgia.....	1,460	73	78	65	235	279	187	779	745
Florida.....	45	—	—	—	164	289	192	14	15
Tennessee....	813	75	88	81	368	417	384	523	670
Alabama.....	1,766	74	87	71	262	353	261	901	1,197
Mississippi...	2,783	74	89	68	318	441	276	1,588	2,353
Arkansas.....	2,416	75	91	81	334	428	328	1,329	1,982
Louisiana....	1,051	71	80	70	261	382	285	528	756
Oklahoma.....	1,156	73	78	74	163	175	170	521	374
Texas.....	10,150	74	79	89	170	176	210	2,722	3,150
New Mexico....	317	90	97	90	497	542	469	119	236
Arizona.....	375	90	92	96	423	558	576	174	328
California....	958	92	87	94	602	576	651	447	968
Other States <sup>4</sup>	19	—	—	—	413	432	423	16	15
UNITED STATES	25,897	75	85	80	254.0	313.1	274.4	11,306	14,868
Amer. Egypt. <sup>5</sup>	5.8	—	—	—	279	434	378	29.5	3.6

1/ From natural causes. 2/ Indicated August 1, on area in cultivation July 1 less 10-year average abandonment. 3/ Allowances made for interstate movement of seed cotton for ginning. 4/ Illinois, Kansas, and Kentucky for all years and Nevada for 1948 and 1949. 5/ Included in State and United States totals. Grown principally in Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas.

APPROVED:

*A. J. Loveland*

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

August 1949

COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER USED ON COTTON 1/

Data in the following tables relating to the percentage of cotton acreage fertilized, the amount of commercial fertilizer applied per acre, and the average price per ton were reported by cotton growers serving as crop correspondents. Computations of total acreage receiving fertilizer and the total tonnage and value of fertilizer used in cotton production are based on these data and the Crop Reporting Board's estimate of acreage in cultivation on July 1. The indicated percentages, averages and resulting computations should be used only as relative measures of change between years.

State	Acres of cotton in		Percentage of acres		Acres of cotton	
	cultivation July 1		receiving fertilizer		receiving fertilizer	
	Average	1948	Average	1949	Average	1948
Mo.	381	534	550	26	40	48
Va.	31	26	32	98	98	99
N.Car.	756	730	820	99	99	99
S.Car.	1,136	1,123	1,210	98	99	99
Ga.	1,635	1,286	1,470	99	99	100
Fla.	48	26	46	95	96	97
Tenn.	694	773	820	64	79	83
Ala.	1,719	1,637	1,780	97	99	99
Miss.	2,473	2,583	2,840	76	80	85
Ark.	1,968	2,249	2,460	54	70	75
La.	996	957	1,070	62	63	70
Okla.	1,558	1,069	1,200	2	11	17
Tex.	7,923	8,793	10,400	6	8	11
Other 2/	696	1,324	1,682	--	--	--
U.S.	22,015	23,110	26,380	45.0	47.9	50.2

State	Fertilizer applied per		Total fertilizer used	
	acre when used		on cotton	
	Average	1948	Average	1948
Mo.	182	190	200	8,865
Va.	444	545	600	6,745
N.Car.	476	560	570	176,019
S.Car.	462	555	575	255,081
Ga.	356	440	465	280,640
Fla.	310	380	425	6,714
Tenn.	216	240	260	47,716
Ala.	366	455	480	300,565
Miss.	236	260	265	220,718
Ark.	178	200	205	93,632
La.	185	210	215	56,896
Okla.	128	125	120	1,993
Tex.	182	210	200	42,398
Other 2/	201	250	245	7,692
U.S.	307	341	342	1,505,674
				1,885,541
				2,258,156

1/ Data for 1949 are preliminary. 2/ Includes New Mexico, Arizona, California, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky and Nevada.

COMMERCIAL FERTILIZER USED ON COTTON 1/

State	Average price of fertilizer per ton		Total cost of fertilizer used on cotton		Average cost of fertilizer per acre when used	
	Average: 1948	1949	Average: 1948	1949	Average: 1948	1949
	1938-47		1938-47		1938-47	
	Dollars		Thousand dollars		Dollars	
Mo.	37.50	51.00	54.00	348 1,037	1,426	3.42 4.84
Va.	28.72	32.50	40.90	191 269	384	6.46 10.76
N.C.	29.22	41.50	42.50	5,130 8,401	9,835	7.06 11.64
S.C.	28.90	40.00	42.50	7,407 12,343	14,638	6.80 11.10
Ga.	29.62	40.00	42.00	8,234 11,202	14,355	5.38 8.80
Fla.	29.38	37.50	42.00	188 178	402	4.61 7.12
Tenn.	32.32	43.50	46.00	1,562 3,189	4,072	3.52 5.24
Ala.	30.13	42.00	43.50	9,073 15,489	18,395	5.63 7.56
Miss.	34.70	52.00	57.00	7,722 13,966	18,232	4.14 6.76
Ark.	36.65	53.00	57.00	3,505 8,342	10,779	3.30 5.30
La.	36.08	51.00	54.00	2,035 3,229	4,348	3.36 5.36
Okla.	32.40	42.00	42.50	70 310	520	2.07 2.62
Tex.	33.70	45.00	49.00	1,419 3,322	5,606	3.09 4.72
Other 2/	46.50	68.50	73.00	392 3,433	5,654	4.75 8.56
U.S.	31.34	44.90	47.00	47,283 84,210	103,646	4.82 7.65

1/ Data for 1949 are preliminary.

2/ Includes New Mexico, Arizona, California, Illinois, Kansas, Kentucky and Nevada.

Sales of Fertilizer in Cotton States for All Purposes

(Tonnage shown is based on sales of fertilizer tags)

State	Sales		
	Beginning	Ending	1947
	(in year shown)	1948	1949 1/
		Tons	
Va.	July 1	June 30	669,000 667,541
N.C.	July 1	June 30	1,667,820 1,606,421
S.C.	July 1	June 30	894,354 987,260
Ga.	July 1	June 30	1,111,314 1,132,435
Fla.	July 1	June 30	994,494 811,111
Tenn.	July 1	June 30	337,040 424,200
Ala.	Oct. 1	June 30	723,900 855,940
Miss.	July 1	June 30	458,468 540,360
Ark.	Jan. 1	June 30	133,830 164,413
La.	Sept. 1	May 31	233,380 223,549
Okla.	July 1	2/ June 30	73,237 114,943
Tex.	July 1	June 30	365,646 437,186
U.S.		7,662,483	7,965,359 8,719,407

1/ Preliminary

2/ About May 15, 1949.